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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**FORMER STATE PENSION BOARD MEMBER
SENTENCED ON PERJURY CHARGES**

BALTIMORE, Maryland - Thomas M. DiBiagio, United States Attorney for the District of Maryland, announced that today U.S. District Court Judge William D. Quarles, Jr. sentenced Debra B. Humphries, age 46, of Bowie, Maryland, a former member of the Board of Trustees of the State Retirement and Pensions System of Maryland (SRPSM), to two years probation, of which six months will be served as home detention, in connection with her guilty plea on August 29, 2003 to charges of committing perjury before a federal grand jury that was investigating her relationship with Baltimore investment banker Nathan A. Chapman, Jr. Judge Quarles also ordered Humphries to perform 25 hours of community service.

In a statement of facts provided to the court as part of the plea agreement, Humphries admitted that she had lied to the grand jury about the number and amount of cash gifts she had received from Chapman in 1998-99, a time when Humphries was serving as a member of the Board of Trustees and Chapman was responsible for managing more than \$100 million in retirement funds for beneficiaries of the state pension system. Humphries, who acknowledged in her August 2003 plea agreement that she was romantically involved with Chapman from 1996 through 1999, had

testified before the grand jury that she received cash gifts from Chapman over the course of their relationship totaling no more than \$1,300 to \$1,500 as well as gifts of clothing, jewelry and a trip to Hawaii. Humphries acknowledged in her plea agreement that the actual amount of cash gifts she received from Chapman in 1998-99 totaled approximately \$46,400. Humphries did not disclose any of the gifts she received from Chapman on financial disclosure reports she filed with the State Ethics Commission for 1998 and 1999. Nor did Humphries recuse herself from voting on matters that came before the Board involving Chapman. She ultimately resigned from the SRPSM Board of Trustees on June 16, 2003 shortly before her indictment on the perjury charge. Humphries testified as a government witness at Chapman's trial last summer.

The case resulted from an investigation conducted by Special Agents Steve Quisenberry and Mark Savine of the Baltimore office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorneys Jefferson M. Gray, P. Michael Cunningham, and Craig M. Wolff.